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College Settlements Association Quarterly

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College Settlements Association Quarterly

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OFFICERS OF THE COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION

1915-16

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2215 Green Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

WHAT THE COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION DOES

The College Settlements Association reaches out in two directions:

1. To colleges and schools, to awaken and sustain intelligent interest in the settlement movement. To this end the Association maintains chapters in twelve colleges for women and subchapters in thirty-three girls' schools; and offers annually to college graduates three fellowships in settlement training.
2. To city neighborhoods, through the varied activities of four college settlements. These settlements depend for their chief support upon local subscriptions, but each receives an annual appropriation from the College Settlements Association.

In addition, the Association makes its influence felt in social legislation, in rural social work, and in the industrial situation.

LITERATURE

Information concerning pamphlets and other literature issued from time to time by the Association may be had on application to Miss Eleanor M. Doty, 567 West 113th Street, New York, N. Y.

If you cannot do active work in a settlement, will you not further such work by joining the College Settlements Association, giving it the support of your annual dues?

The settlements were established by college graduates, but many women with no college affiliations have given generously of their money and their time to the individual settlements, and have expressed their conviction in the value of the settlement movement by becoming members of the College Settlements Association. If you do not belong to the College Settlements Association, will you not fill out the membership pledge to-day, and send it to

Mrs. George C. Macan, Jr.,
202 Taylor Avenue, Easton, Pa.

MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE

(Including annual subscription of $.25 to the C. S. A. QUARTERLY)

Full Annual Membership	$5.00
Partial Annual Membership	1.00- 5.00
Sustaining Annual Membership	10.00-25.00
Life Membership	100.00

I hereby express my desire to belong to the College Settlements Association, and show my interest by paying the annual dues of ....., payable yearly after October 1.

The first payment is herewith enclosed.

(Signed).....

Address.....

Subscription to the C. S. A. QUARTERLY for non-members, $.25 a year.

APPLICATION FOR RESIDENCE

1. The New York College Settlement, 95 Rivington Street, New York.

   Application for residence in the New York Settlement should be made to Miss E. S. Williams, 95 Rivington Street, New York City. Permanent board will vary from $6 to $7, according to the amount of time given to the house; $1.25 per day will be charged for short visits.

2. The Philadelphia College Settlement, 433 Christian Street.

   Application for residence in the Philadelphia Settlement should be made to Miss Emily S. Richards, Indian Queen Lane, Station Z, Philadelphia, Pa. Board will not exceed $6, but $1 a day will be charged for visits shorter than one month.

3. Denison House, 93 Tyler Street, Boston.

   Application for residence at Denison House should be made to Mrs. William H. McElwain, 390 Beacon Street, Boston. Permanent board will vary from $6 to $8, according to the amount of time given to the house; $1.25 a day will be charged for visits shorter than one month.

4. Locust Point Settlement, 1504 East Fort Avenue, Baltimore.

   Application for residence in the Locust Point Settlement should be made to Miss Eva Loudon, 1504 East Fort Avenue, Baltimore. Board will vary from $4 to $5, according to the amount of time given to the house.

APPLICATION FOR FELLOWSHIPS

should be made to Miss Grace P. Fuller, Chairman of the Committee on Fellowships Extension, 28 Summer Street, West Haven, Conn.

THE NEW QUARTERLY BULLETIN

The Annual Report of the College Settlements Association has been to many of us a most interesting and stimulating document, that gave a fairly clear impression of the work of the Association and of each of the four settlements. Like a good many other stimulants, however, one dose was not enough to spur us on to action. This new venture, a quarterly bulletin, is to give us our doses at shorter intervals, the effect of one, we hope, lasting over until the next is administered. Then the cumulative effect will be great enough to rouse us, first, to the breadth and greatness of the work, and then to our responsibility toward it. It is comparatively easy to keep the compact undergraduate chapters in touch with the settlements, but once the alumnæ are "safe in the wide, wide world," and scattered far and wide, it is a difficult task to bring home to them the need of the C.S.A. for their continued interest and support.

It would be ideal if we could have small peripatetic settlements representing the four College Settlements to send about like a traveling exhibit, to show our scattered backers what, thanks to their generosity, is actually being done. Perhaps in time the "talking movie" may do this for us. But for the present, the QUARTERLY BULLETIN will do its best, bringing us four times a year fresh news from the settlements, the formal reports and statistics, and, best of all, articles by those who are most closely in touch with the work, and who can bring home to us the fact that "a College Settlement is not merely an aggregation of clubs and classes, but an expression of democracy, that is wider in scope than a house, or even a neighborhood." We who were at Mt. Ivy in May got a new vision of these wider applications. May the QUARTERLY succeed in carrying it to every member of the C. S. A.!

ELLEN T. EMERSON, President

NOTE

All financial statements, reports of committees, names of Life Members, Electors, members of committees, local executive boards, subchapters, etc., will appear in the December number of the QUARTERLY.

SOME NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION

IF any of you happen to be the daughter of an orthodox minister, perhaps you have known one of those awful moments at the regular Friday night prayer meeting when, after a silence that has grown oppressive, a zealous deacon says, "May we not have a word—even a word—from one of the sisters?" It seems as if he were looking directly at you; as if that ominous silence were a parental criticism; and yet, in spite of your desire to help, your knees are stiff, your tongue is glued to the roof of your mouth and you know, moreover, that the "spirit" never will move on that or any similar occasion.

In those far-off days I never could have guessed that the time would come when I should be eager to stand on my feet and publicly "testify." But it did come last fall at the twenty-fifth anniversary of the C.S.A., and perhaps because I could not gratify my desire to bear witness to what the Settlement had done for me in giving me "workable" ideas and ideals, and because membership in the C.S.A. Fellowship Committee has brought home the fact that we no longer appeal strongly to any large number of college students, I have the past few months been trying to analyze our situation and to discover what vitalizing opportunities we may have been allowing to slip by.

First, I believe we have overlooked the fact that, whereas the group of college women to whom we looked for support in our early days was very small, it is now large—nearly 6,000 from Smith alone—and undoubtedly possessed of an increasingly active, social intelligence.

The college women in our large cities have innumerable opportunities for social work suited to their abilities. But in the smaller cities and towns, and in the country districts, I believe a vast amount of social talent is either lost or limited in its effectiveness, from lack of leadership and from lack of training-places for the volunteer.

This leadership and training could, I think, be developed in two ways. An experienced field secretary could make connections with communities through the local college club or some individual college woman, and act as advisor, aiming not to start new settlements, but to extend the use of school buildings, to utilize other existing resources of the town, to plan social education campaigns,—in brief, to help the group—which should not be confined to college women—to study their local problems and to find constructive ways of meeting them. A large amount of material, dramatic, et cetera, that the N. Y. Association

of Neighborhood Workers and others have been collecting might become available through the secretary.

The second connection could be made through residence in the settlement for short periods, not, as formerly, to help the settlement in its own work, but to gain experience and ideas for use at home. It would mean special planning for making a study of club work, handicrafts, plays, children's work—whatever the demand; but might it not be a natural, worth-while direction for part of the settlement's effort?

In the second place, I believe that we do not enough remember that the early group who went to "95" were spiritual pioneers; that they set forth on a great adventure, fraught—at least in the minds of anxious parents and friends—with many dangers, and with many and varied experiences in pursuing their ideals. The great social adventure of our day, as I see it, is to bring democracy to industry; and if our association keeps to its spirit of pioneering and of idealism, I believe it should have a share in it. Just how, is for us to work out. As a possible beginning, I would suggest a conference. Why not a gathering like that in May at Mt. Ivy—only larger—on some spring holiday, at Northampton or Wellesley, with college women from many cities and towns, all working at some neighborhood venture; and on our program a presentation of phases of the industrial problem which so largely makes a problem of many of our neighborhoods?

These suggestions I offer in the hope that they may arouse full discussion and perhaps later action. This year of war is for women everywhere a time of renewed consecration, of the release of unused, perhaps unrealized, spiritual power; and may we not gain from it new life for our Association in our endeavor to realize our "ideal of a Republic built on the uncommon fineness in the common man?" And, to quote Dr. Adler further, "to that ideal not on the field of battle, as in Europe, but in the arduous toil of peace, let us be willing to give the 'last full measure of devotion.'"

HELEN F. GREENE

SETTLEMENT PROBLEMS AND METHODS IN RURAL SOCIAL WORK

IT was an interesting and, at first, rather surprising experience, after working for many years among an immigrant population on the East Side of New York City, to find, on spending a year in the country in rural New York State, a similarity, both in the characteristics of the people and in the methods of work applicable to the situation. On reflection, however, it is not so surprising, though none the less

interesting, when one realizes that both peoples have suffered from the lack of similar influences.

A large number of the immigrants to this country have come from regions like remote parts of Italy and Eastern Europe that have not been touched by any of the influences of modern civilization. Their mode of life is most primitive; they have had no opportunities for education; their religious observances are archaic; and their moral standards leave much to be desired. In working to help them to a better life, it is necessary to present to them an entirely new standard of living, to start with the rudiments of education both for the old and the young, to try to create a better environment for the younger generation by dealing summarily with violations of morality, at the same time being exceedingly careful not to offend the prejudices of the older people, to recognize their superstitions, and, above all things, not to alienate the children from their parents by too rapid progress.

Similar things have been said by workers in the mountain regions of the South, but one would hardly expect to find them applicable to a district not over forty miles from New York City. That was my experience last winter, however, in taking up the work begun the year previous in the neighborhood of the summer home of the College Settlement. Here a population, scattered along the edge of the Ramapo Mountains, and a few families in the mountains themselves, oftentimes living in one-room cabins, suggest in their mode of life, only somehow not so picturesque, the peasants as the traveler sees them in Sicily, or hears them described in Hungary or Poland. Many of the older people can neither read nor write, and when the school is four miles distant the haling of a refractory parent to court by a truant officer does not help the cause of education much in cold winter weather. The schools themselves are very poor, typically the old-fashioned one-room district school, with fifty children ranging in age from six to sixteen, under one teacher, so that those who attend fairly regularly get very little. There is no hand-work of any kind, and no vocational training; and this lack is not supplemented at home, as in the old days of the traditional New England farm. A narrow formalism in religion, that adheres very strictly to all the outward forms, but makes very little impression as to every-day morality, frowning upon all the modern kinds of amusement, and thus losing its hold on the younger generation, suggests the orthodox Jewish faith or the Catholicism of the Poles.

There is this difference, however—and it is a big one, making the work among the left-behind Americans harder than among the immigrants: the latter have had some ambition, and although it sometimes seems to have been exhausted by the effort to get here, the momentum of the great upheaval usually holds over until the children

are able to carve out their own fortunes. America is the "Promised Land," and immigrants come here to better their own condition, and especially that of their children. Not so the country dweller in question; he remains where he is, and is what he is because the pioneer spirit which brought his ancestors of old English stock to this region was long since exhausted. One finds oneself here, contrary to all preconceived ideas, not trying to stem the tide citywards, but wishing that some of the many young men in the community had sufficient energy to look for work even in the neighboring towns. They are content to go on living in the same rude way as their parents; and it is a sad fact that, although wages have risen, their earning capacity is less than that of their fathers; they are not so good, either as wood choppers, scoop or basket makers, or as general workmen. There are very few real farmers among them; some work on the large estates of city people in the neighborhood, or on the roads, or earn a precarious livelihood picking berries and doing odd jobs. Such work lasts only from six to eight months, and it is hard to earn enough in the winter to provide food for the large families, to say nothing of shoes and clothing. Sometimes there is woodchopping, but when the brick yards where the wood is used are closed, as in the last year or two, that is very scarce. An all too generous distribution of outdoor relief by the local poor officer—almost any able-bodied man may become a regular recipient of grocery orders throughout the winter—is discouraging both to thrift and work.

The social life of the people is meager, since the population is scattered, and the church, where the forms of amusement are greatly restricted, has been the only gathering place. The emotional energy of the young people, their natural desires for play and fun, have therefore found outlet in some unfortunate channels.

Here are some of the same old city problems—education, employment and recreation.

In proceeding to meet these, one exercises even more care in the country than in the city not to destroy any germs of local initiative. An immigrant population, accustomed to more or less oppression under monarchical forms of government, is less likely to act spontaneously, while in a democracy, even the corrupt political bosses have not been able entirely to rob men of their independence. One rejoices, therefore, to find, often in unexpected quarters, a pride which resents any kind of patronage.

In putting a worker in this field two years ago, it was therefore made to appear that her real work was the care of the settlement property and a few winter city guests, while she joined hands with the native population in giving of her leisure to establish certain lines of work for their benefit. For many years it had been a cause for

regret that the College Settlement had been able to give only a passing glance at these neighborhood problems, of which it was perfectly conscious, but absorption in the needs of its many summer guests and lack of funds had not made it possible before. A combination of circumstances—the devoted service of one of its old residents, the generosity of two friends, a community receptive as never before, because of the influence in near-by districts of an enlightened Methodist minister, made action finally possible two years ago.

One of the first things to engage our worker's attention was a movement for the consolidation of five schools in the neighborhood into one large graded school in an adequate building, with facilities for manual training, domestic science, and so forth. As the taxpayers in our district had finally, due to the presence of a goodly number of women at the meeting, voted to build a new building in place of their old school, which some time since had been condemned as one of the worst school buildings in the State, it seemed an opportune time to push the consolidation project. The time before the question was brought to vote, however, was too short to form a public sentiment in its favor, and it is not surprising that it was voted down by people who are naturally averse to any change, and who have no conception of what a good school might do for their children. The next step, therefore, is to give them some idea of this by improving the present schools; and whenever a vacancy occurs in any of them, the opportunity will be seized to recommend a good teacher, which will not be difficult, as there is great interest in normal schools and colleges in the rural problem.

In the meantime the only thing to be done was to make good, as has been done in the city for so many years, the deficiencies of the schools by private agencies. A sewing school was started under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid Society of the church, that body paying for the materials used, and two of their number assisting our worker in the teaching. A club for the little boys followed, with the idea of preparing them for a troop of Boy Scouts, which should be organized later—a vain hope, as it proved, as no scout master could be found. The young men, however, were organized into a very successful club by the village storekeeper, an old settlement club member, who has the welfare of the community very much at heart, and has great influence among the people. The club paid its share of a room which was rented for its use, and for that of the sewing school, boys' club, and later for the library, which was kept open every evening for reading and games. This formed a powerful counter attraction to the saloon, which, though two miles away, had its many regular patrons from this locality. Intemperance is one of the curses of the place, and dates back many years.

An active part was taken in making interesting and enjoyable the meetings of the Ladies' Aid Society of the church; and speakers from New York were secured both for the Society and for a course of lectures in the church. With many resources in New York at command, it was easy to bring this backward community quickly into touch with modern life and thought. This, with the ease with which the work was continued and developed the second year, with half the money and a part-time worker, shows what a little training and experience can do in a rural community, and emphasizes the obligation laid upon trained workers to share in solving such problems.

This last winter there has been an especial effort to make use of the facilities offered by the different State departments for the asking,—but someone must do the asking. Books were secured from the Department of Education for a circulating library, which is open twice a week, and lantern slides for lectures; a nurse from the Department of Health organized a "Little Mothers' League" among the little girls. It was a great satisfaction, too, to be able to make some use of the Settlement property, for besides much informal hospitality, and the large Christmas party for all the children of the neighborhood, one of the houses was opened once a month for a party given by the men's club for their girl friends. Two of our city club members co-operated splendidly by coming up for the night to provide the music with guitar and mandolin. The wholesome good times with games and dances opened up a whole new world of pleasure to the young people. They only need more and more of it.

The unemployment situation here, as elsewhere, was especially serious last winter, but our storekeeper friend undertook to grapple with it by providing work in the making of wooden scoops, for which he finds a market in the city, where they are used for bailing boats and shoveling grain. He was somewhat frustrated in this by the activity of the poor master previously mentioned, although he encouraged the workers in every way, actually delivering the raw material to their very doors. This problem of some winter occupation should be dealt with in some comprehensive way, and we hope to make a beginning by utilizing the population's considerable skill in basket-making. Here, too, our city connections ought to make it easy to secure a market.

At every turn we have found our experience and resources in city and country dovetailing; and from this little experiment in rural work would urge upon others whose lot may be cast in the country, either temporarily or permanently, to put at service the knowledge which has been gained elsewhere.

May it not also prove an incentive to some country dwellers who have not had the broader experience to seek it? They will find that a little knowledge will bear fruit a hundredfold.

ELIZABETH S. WILLIAMS

PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE SETTLEMENT

431-435 Christian Street — 422½ Queen Street — 100 Lombard Street
Chalkley Hall, Frankford — 502-504 South Front Street

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. J. Rodman Paul, Chairman — Mr. Reed A. Morgan, Treasurer
Miss Anna F. Davies, Headworker

THE Philadelphia Settlement is active at its two town houses, and at Chalkley Hall, its so-called "country place."

Chalkley Hall is bounded by railroads, and its semi-country quiet is perforated by the whistles of locomotives. A mile and a half from the Delaware River, it serves as the point of departure for numerous "river parties" for boating and swimming, that increase so constantly in popularity that we begin to think that a boat house of our own ought to be added to our outing resources. Though shabby and drooping with neglect and years, Chalkley Hall is to hundreds a beloved resource for joy and refreshment. Witness these records of the 1914 residence season of eight weeks:

58 persons spent week ends. Many repeated.
49 persons spent 1 week in residence
25 persons spent 2 weeks in residence
1 person spent 3 weeks in residence
1 person spent 4 weeks in residence
3 persons spent 8 weeks in residence

137 persons spent 130 weeks, and about 18 week-ends in residence.

As picnickers and day-trippers, 1,111 visitors were recorded; applications refused, due to shortage of space and funds, 129. With the unit of one person for one day as the basis of reckoning, the daily pressure of use was 37½ persons; weekly pressure, 261¾ persons. A baseball field was rented to a local club, increasing the weekly use by about 150 persons.

The average number of persons busied as caretakers (including domestics) was 4½, and the direct money cost of maintenance was, in round figures, $800.

In town perhaps the greatest interest centers in the Babies' Rest Yard at the Christian Street house. For some four years we have had a Babies' Rest Yard in space temporarily free from buildings. This summer, for the first time, a little back yard adjoining the

Domestic Arts Cottage is permanently established in that use. The apex of its growth is touched when we mention "The Wellesley Nurse." This nurse is for the care and nurture of the Babies' Rest Yard, and her salary for the summer is provided by the Wellesley Club of Philadelphia. Again has Wellesley given evidence of her value as a backer and upholder of our Settlement work. Every baby asleep in a hammock on a hot summer morning, every stubbed-toe child coming in for comfort and bandaging, every tired, hot woman enjoying one of the two bathtubs which we have made adjuncts of the Rest Yard, every "little mother" getting a lesson in handling and "baffin" the baby blesses "the Wellesley nurse at the College Settlement of Philadelphia," and, by implication, the Wellesley Club; and further, Wellesley College, the *Alma Mater* of "them college girls that sent the nurse." In the month of July, 1915, we have had

Babies registered	148
Attendance for July	545
Babies' baths given	94
Home visits made by nurse	37
Treatments for minor ailments and accidents	55

The growing work of the Rest Yard is being done in close cooperation with the South Philadelphia Branch of the Child Federation, of which the Headworker is President, and the Fifth Member of our Association's Standing Committee is Secretary. Also in the closest relation with the Child Federation are our Sanitary Leagues, which are having, during July, a miniature whirlwind "campaign for the covered garbage can." The Leagues have given one local parade. Fly swatters, garbage cans, essentials-of-sanitation standards with inscriptions, such as:—Swat the Fly, Bat the Rat, Keep Your Garbage Can Covered, To Be Healthy You Must Be Clean, Let Every Week Be Clean-up Week, costumes serious and funny, all carrying a sanitary symbolism—these were the elements of a parade that emptied the houses as spectators poured forth; and was, as we were officially and publicly assured by Chief McCrudden from the City Hall, the *best* parade of its kind that Philadelphia had *ever* had!

We are finding a cheering number of volunteers this summer, and because of their help our usual busy-ness continues. Shower baths, play yards, dancing socials, garden clubs, Little Mothers' Leagues, the Adult Night School, picnics, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Bank Hours, ordinary clubs, an enthusiastic and self-financing Esperanto class, Library Hours—August, we think, must bring a slowing of the wheels, but July has known no lessening of our grist, nor of our grinding.

ANNA F. DAVIES, *Headworker*

NEW YORK COLLEGE SETTLEMENT

95 Rivington Street | 189 Ludlow Street | 86 First Street

Ridge Farm, Mount Ivy, N. Y.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MRS. FRANCIS BOARDMAN, Chairman | MR. CHARLES H. KEEP, Treasurer

MISS ELIZABETH S. WILLIAMS, Headworker

"SUMMER here hath all too short a tale," the inscription over the fireplace in our old house, never seemed more appropriate to Mt. Ivy life than this year, when we find a cruelly short season not slipping, but galloping away. So much joy has been crowded into the six weeks since the middle of June, such an endless round of picnics and parties!

The Fourth of July celebration was our great gala occasion, and, coming in conjunction with the week end, gave a real holiday to many a boy and girl who would otherwise have had no vacation. When our accommodations were stretched then to house two hundred we thought we had reached the breaking point, but the necessary adjustments are made so easily and every one accommodates himself to them so quickly, that a few weeks later, taking the census on a Saturday night, we were surprised to find the same large number. As far as our funds would allow—and they have not been as ample as we could wish—we have kept every nook and corner constantly filled. The demands upon our space in a shortened season have not been as difficult to meet as we feared, because unfortunately many of the boys and girls are having no vacation at all.

But those fortunate ones, in the week, ten days, or two weeks which falls to their lot, certainly forget all the care and drudgery of their working days, and nothing could be a greater contrast for them than the simple outdoor life at Ridge Farm. It has been most gratifying this summer to see the results of years of effort, both in the city and country, especially with the girls, in a much better spirit of co-operation, both in work and in play, and an increased love for outdoor life and sports. The small amount of house work allotted to them is despatched quickly, and with almost no friction. The cook, for instance, on her day of duty, instead of being almost dragged from her bed, is out tiptoeing about as she makes the cocoa, before the camp director is half awake. No tramp is now too long or too hard,

if it brings the campers to some new and lovely spot, or to a good swim. Sometimes the boys and girls join forces, and go on these expeditions together, sometimes each group by itself, in either case perfectly happy. There was one memorable ball game between the older boys and girls, when the former played left-handed and walked to bases.

The Smith College girls have helped, as usual, with the group of ten little girls in the farmhouse, coming two at a time for ten days each. Such good times as they have given those children! Baseball, swimming, athletic meets, walks and picnics have filled their days. One group gave a most delightful production of some scenes from "Alice in Wonderland." Marvelous costumes were evolved from the very meager property box, and the children recited their lines with much appreciation of their subtle humor. The performance was afterwards repeated for the country children from the village near by, who sat wide-eyed at seeing something so like a real play.

Wells College girls have acted as assistants at the girls' camp, coming also in shifts, and bringing fresh interest and vigor into camp life. A collection of inspiriting camp songs will long remind our girls of their happy days together.

College girls can bring so much to the East Side children and working girls, opening up to them a whole new vista of the possibilities in life, that we wish that we had more facilities for accommodating them, and more groups with which they could work. This year we had a number of applications from girls from other colleges, for whom we had no place, Smith and Wells, because of their generous contributions having first claim on the farmhouse and girls' camp. As I said at the C.S.A. meeting in May, we need another girls' camp, and offer the privilege of equipping and manning it to the highest bidder among the other colleges.

Though the time passes so quickly while here, the memory of it all lasts through the whole year; and no sooner have the groups returned to the city than they gather night after night at "95" to go over and over the story of their good times. Every new resident knows Mt. Ivy by heart before she has ever seen it. It has been a satisfaction in saying "good-bye" to each group to know that the good of the holiday would thus be carried over into the gatherings at the settlement, and, bringing in the camp spirit, make possible a simple, wholesome social life, which seems so alien among the tawdry, commercial amusements of the neighborhood.

Both the boys' club house and the gymnasium on First Street and 95 Rivington Street have been open this summer—in the daytime the gymnasium and yard as playgrounds, and in the evening for dances and games for the young people. One hundred and fifty children

gather in the two playgrounds in the morning, and make a happy picture as they sing and play their games. Even indoors, or in our circumscribed back yard, the change from the heat and dirt of the streets is so welcome that it brings long lines of expectant children to our doors, some of whom, alas! must be turned away.

Every summer the unevenness of the distribution of the opportunities and pleasures of life comes over one afresh. Mt. Ivy and the open doors of our city houses are an attempt to share some of their privileges and blessings on the part of our friends, and especially of the college girls, who are so generous to us.

ELIZABETH S. WILLIAMS, *Headworker*

THE BOSTON COLLEGE SETTLEMENT

Denison House, 93 Tyler Street

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MISS C. L. HUMPHREY, Chairman — MR. D. B. HOAR, Treasurer

MISS GERALDINE GORDON, Headworker

AT Denison House regular organized activities end when the hot weather begins. Various members of the regular staff take turns having their vacations and the large body of volunteers is scattered. The summer residents, however, find their hands so full that they wonder what the winter must be, if this is the "slack season."

Perhaps the easiest way to present a picture of the summer work is to follow the procession of the days as they pass by,

"And marching single in an endless file,
Bring diadems and fagots in their hands."

On Monday, the morning offers fagots, for the prosaic fact of the week's wash on the line in the back yard stops the playground activities. The children, who demand their sand piles and swings, regardless of laundry day, do not suffer, for they are taken in little groups to the Public Gardens to ride in the swan boats and feed the pigeons.

Monday afternoon, while the Milk Station mothers are consulting the doctor about the last born, the little children, who have to come with mother wherever she goes, have the run of the yard, the sand pile and the swings; and upstairs, in one of the big, cool rooms, the Story Book Club comes for its weekly exchange of stories. These little girls are just under the age when the Public Library grants cards, but they are not too young to love a book, to learn to handle it, and to realize that the story that is told to them as they sit in a group makes good reading at home when they tend the baby.

On Monday night Story Telling continues for an older group of boys and girls, who meet in good weather in the back yard and listen in perfect quiet to the stories that Mr. and Mrs. Cronan tell—fairy tales, hero tales, Uncle Remus, and always a thrilling serial that runs through many weeks. These boys and girls speed away to the Public Library to draw out "Captains Courageous" to see what happened next, or to clamor for a copy of "The Prince and the Pauper," the story of "the boss that beat his kid"!

On Tuesday, and on every other day thereafter, the yard is open at 9 o'clock, in charge of a resident or volunteer director. So great is the demand for swings and sand pile that tickets must be issued to the clamoring crowd at the front door. The yard is especially intended for the little children and the older girls, who must take care of baby while mother is busy. On Tuesday night the weekly Clinic overflows its quarters and all free hands are engaged in registering patients, taking temperatures, helping with the card catalogue, and so forth.

Wednesday is a bright spot in the week, for then flowers are sent in to be distributed in the district. In the evening older groups of boys and girls come to the House for games or dancing. Somehow, in the summer, in the big back yard, "Drop-the-handkerchief" and "Wink" do not seem foolish even for grown-ups.

Thursday evening the time-honored Neighborhood Party goes on, as usual, with less formal entertainment than in the winter, but with much conversation and many spontaneous stunts presented by the guests themselves, perhaps an Irish jig, or a plaintive Syrian love-song.

On Friday evening the yard is open for children too old for the morning and afternoon, and too young for the joys of Wednesday and Thursday evenings, the "betwixt and betweens."

Meantime other activities go forward. The Milk Station, of course, is never closed and the nurse makes rather more visits in the summer than in the winter. The resident nurse at Denison House spends busy days following up the cases that come in on Tuesday night, hunting up country places for the over-tired, the ailing, and the convalescent. Other workers organize groups of children, or grown-ups, sometimes whole families, for all-day picnics to the beaches or the country.

The Folk Handicraft workers welcome long days of sunlight for their fine work, and their big work-room fairly hums with activity. Certain days are set aside when the Italian and Syrian women bring in their exquisite handwork to be judged, accepted, and paid for. Sales are arranged in the summer colonies, at the shore and mountains, wherever there are buyers to demand exquisite linens and laces of rare beauty.

One resident is busy two mornings each week visiting the depositors of the Stamp Saving Society. The formal call for savings, time and again, lengthens into a friendly visit, and many a difficult family situation is discussed and clarified.

Special events break in delightfully upon the scheduled happenings, as when, for example, on the Fourth of July, a group of young Italians, members of our Circolo Italo-Americano, gave a very delightful concert for the benefit of the Italian Red Cross, raising by their sale of flowers and refreshments over $50. Another evening, the young people interested in dramatics carried through a capital Pop Concert on an improvised stage in the back yard with singing, dancing and entertainment of all sorts.

Then every day, from 9 o'clock until 12, in the Public School building across the street, Denison House conducts a Vacation School where dressmaking, embroidery, sloyd, basketry and various other handicrafts are taught, together with an excellent course of nature study, which takes groups of children into the woods and to the shore in search of specimens.

Two large parties of children are to be entertained by the Museum of Fine Arts during the summer. Special cars carry them from our Neighborhood to the very door of the Museum. In one of the large lecture rooms they listen to stories, and afterwards visit the galleries to discover for themselves some of the rare and delightful things the stories have made more real to them:—the great picture of the horses of Achilles, the Storm by Inness, the portraits in the American gallery of familiar heroes of history. And then, to crown the great day, there are ice cream cones for all, and the children tell the leader the things in the Museum they have liked best. It was one of our boys who said his favorite picture was "the Horses of O'Kelley"!

Meanwhile, during the six weeks from July 10 to August 7, groups of boys are enjoying the rough-and-ready life of Camp Denison on Lake Wentworth; and there, under the same conditions, from the 7th of August to the 21st, as many girls as the Camp can hold will experience for the first time real camp life, with out-of-door sleeping and all that makes a camp a camp—an experiment for the girls, but one we enter upon with optimism and enthusiasm. Unfortunately, the camp is so far from Boston, the transportation expenses so great, that our funds permit only this short season.

Those who live at the Denison House in the summer know intimately the life of the district as it never can be known under the shut-in conditions of winter living, when doors are closed and the streets deserted. We feel a peculiar sense of intimacy with this most interesting neighborhood. Door-step visiting, evening walks along the happy, hot, thronged streets, all the free and unspoiled fellowship that

the magic of summer makes possible are ours. And in these few months we accomplish more in establishing genuine friendly relations than sometimes happens the whole winter through.

GERALDINE GORDON, *Headworker*

THE BALTIMORE COLLEGE SETTLEMENT

1502-1506 East Fort Avenue

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MISS ALICE MORAWETZ, Chairman — MRS. D. F. HAYNES, Treasurer

MISS EVA LOUDON, Headworker

THE Baltimore College Settlement closes its doors during July and August from lack of money to keep them open. The readers of the QUARTERLY may be interested, however, to hear something of the work initiated by the Settlement before the house was closed. The most interesting thing accomplished, because of its benefit to all Baltimore as well as to Locust Point, was the successful effort made to induce the Park Board to open at Fort McHenry a public beach for salt water bathing. The need which it met is shown by the fact that on the day the beach was opened approximately two thousand persons availed themselves of the luxury of a plunge in the salt water.

Early in June a tennis club was organized among the older boys and girls of the neighborhood, many of whom are employed in offices. When the Headworker left Baltimore early in July, there was a membership of nearly forty, and plans were being made for a tournament this fall. The parish priest allows the summer meetings to be held in the hall of the Catholic Church.

The two Camp Fire groups at the Settlement are to have a week at the camp which was established on the Severn River last summer for all the Baltimore Camp Fires. The two plays which our groups gave with great success "uptown" last spring netted enough money to give each girl a week of camping,—and incidentally added $60 to the revenues of the Settlement.

The hearts of our Boy Scouts were gladdened by the acquisition, late in June, of two tents which they had been working for months to secure. Their first camping trip was a Fourth of July outing, and a light shower of rain was obliging enough to fall—in order to demonstrate the fact that the tents are really waterproof.

A good deal of Fresh Air work was done in June, the names of the children being sent to the proper agencies.

EVA LOUDON, *Headworker*

THE FUNCTION OF THE C. S. A.

IN view of its recent birthday the College Settlements Association is moved to look over its twenty-five years of life and take account of stock, estimating its assets and liabilities. What contributions have we, as an Association, made to the life of our time? Is the settlement, in which we were pioneers, only a method already outworn, to be now replaced by methods more scientific and efficient? Has the faith, with which the first settlement venture was made, any place in the great social movement of to-day and in the new social conditions of to-morrow?

Twenty-five years ago the College Settlement offered a new approach to social work in this country. It may almost be said that this movement was the beginning of social work as distinguished from that which was definitely charitable or religious. During this quarter-century settlements have blazed many trails along which other organizations have followed. They have contributed largely to the development of civic spirit and to a sense of common interest. They have demonstrated the possibilities of vital friendship between those of unequal oportunity. Nor is the work of the settlement yet done. Because of its peculiar flexibility the settlement method has great practical advantages for the work of the new generation The character of settlement work has undoubtedly changed and therein lies one of its claims to future usefulness. It still remains a great interpretive medium and its central thought and motive are unchanged.

It is obvious that the primary object of the College Settlements Association was the maintenance and control of College Settlements. But as these settlements were not simply a new method, but an expression of a new sense of social responsibility, so the work of the Association was in its scope far beyond the matters of maintenance and control. This work was, in fact, to awaken among women of opportunity this sense of social responsibility.

For twenty-five years the College Settlements Association has worked toward this end. Through its four settlements hundreds of college women have gained social understanding and have found the work for which they were fitted. Fellowships for research and training have given a new point of view to those who held them and have kept the college bodies in touch with social work. College chapters and school sub-chapters have made a channel through which the incoming tide of social knowledge and interest has reached even those

who too often are left stranded upon the bank while the great flood of the common life goes by.

The Association has still many trails to blaze. New work is pressing upon us—the development of leadership in small centers, the fostering of community interest in rural districts. Still other forms of work are appearing upon the horizon. The usefulness of the Association is only limited by the vigor of the support of every kind which it receives.

The old heresy that aristocracy is based on anything less than character is passing away. Perhaps the neighbor is not so often left wounded by the way while we pass by on the other side. But individualism is still dominant. The heresy that we may be *in* the social organism, as perforce we must be, and still not be *of* it, is yet alive. We arraign society of stupidity, of cowardice and of crime, but we fail to recognize ourselves in the prisoner at the bar. This heresy the College Settlements Association challenges to deadly combat, wherever and however it may appear.

HELEN R. THAYER